

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application Of: RAYMOND G. VERSHUM, DALE L FOSTER and JOSEPH SPENCER OSBORNE III)))
Application No. 10/717,462) Group Art Unit:
Filed: November 21, 2003) Examiner: Unassigned
For: PACKAGING APPARATUS AND METHOD)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants submit herewith Form PTO-1449, "Information Disclosure Statement." Pursuant to the Notice from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office ("PTO") dated July 11, 2003, the PTO has waived the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) requiring submission of a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each cited U.S. patent application for applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international applications entering the national stage under 35 USC § 371 after June 30, 2003. Therefore, copies of the listed U.S. patents and U.S. patent applications are not enclosed.

The Examiner is requested to consider carefully the complete text of the enclosed references in connection with the examination of this application. It is requested that the listed references be made of record and included in the "References Cited" portion of any patent issuing from this application.

Information Disclosure Statement U.S. Application No. 10/717,462

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Since this Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application, no fee is necessary. Please charge any fee associated with this Communication to our Deposit Account No. 23-0280.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 10, 2004

Paul J. Nykaza, Reg. No. 38,984 Wallenstein Wagner & Rockey, Ltd. 311 S. Wacker Drive, 53rd Floor Chicago, Illinois 60606-6622

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 10, 2004.

Sarah J. Goodnight (193150.1)

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